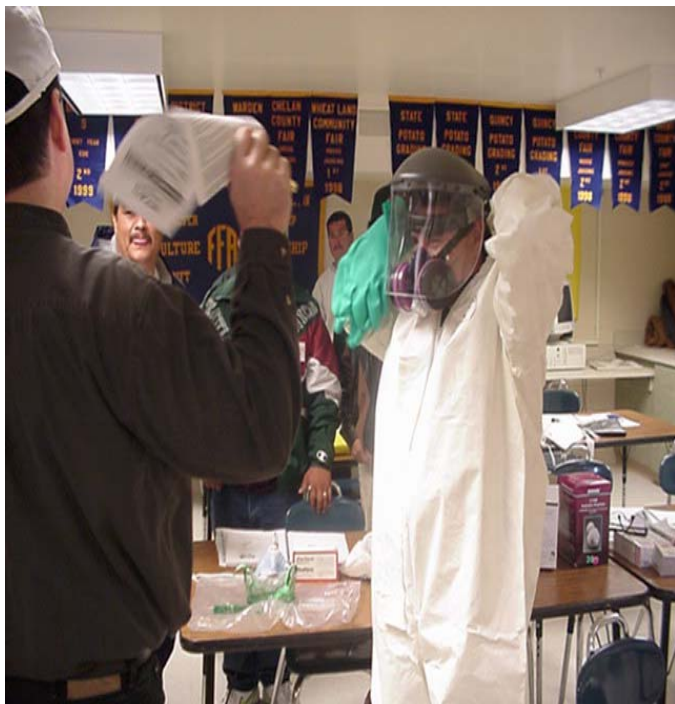


Hands-On Training For Pesticide Handlers

Upcoming events...

The three Hands-on Training for Pesticide Handlers in central Washington in spring 2002 (Yakima, Quincy, Brewster) were such a success that the Washington Growers League is collaborating with Washington State University Extension and the WSDA Farmworker Education Program to hold a training event in Mt. Vernon, WA in 2003. Please watch our calendar for upcoming events.



In the Personal Protective Equipment training module, participants work together to find the safety equipment required by the pesticide label. Trainer Pedro Serrano leads the group activity.

Why “Hands-On?”

Adults often learn better by doing. In Hands-On training, groups of 10-12 students rotate through four subjects: Mixing and Loading, Cleanup and Disposal, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and Leaks and Spills. Participants discuss techniques, do problem-solving activities, and enact on-farm scenarios, such as how to properly wear and maintain their PPE. This type of training works because people often feel more comfortable asking questions in a small-group environment.



Participants learn by doing how to contain and clean up a dry ‘pesticide’ spill.

How is the training conducted?

The training is held in English and Spanish and is taught by bilingual volunteer trainers. All of the trainers are experienced fieldmen, managers and applicators. Participants receive a WPS verification of training card or recertification credits (if licensed), and a certificate of attendance.

What are people saying about it?

“Have more trainings of this kind!” is what we heard most often from the Spanish-speaking participants. English-speaking participants also spoke favorably of the program and reported that the demonstrations enabled them to learn more about how to use equipment and handle pesticides. Several growers who sent their employees have called us just to say, “**Thanks for putting on a great program!**”

Real training results!

Self-assessments given before and after training show positive results. Spanish-speaking participants consistently score themselves at a higher level of knowledge after the training than before.

How can I get involved?

Any person or group can put on a Hands-On workshop and we can help! Consult our [How-To Guide](#) for additional information. We can provide the training curriculum and loan you all the required props. Most of the props needed are regular shop and household items. If you would like more information, please contact Flor Tovar, (509) 662-0590, ftovar@agr.wa.gov or Ofelio Borges, (509) 225-2625, oborges@agr.wa.gov or Karen Lewis at WSU Cooperative Extension, (509) 760-2263, kmlewis@wsu.edu.